

Art Babbott

District 1

October 3, 2013

Dear Brandis Way Flood Corridor Property Owner,

Elizabeth C. Archuleta District 2

As you are all aware, the Brandis Way Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Flood Mitigation project is now complete. I want to personally thank all of you for your support, cooperation and patience prior to and during construction of the project.

Matt Ryan District 3

I'm also pleased to report that, to date, the on-forest measures constructed above Brandis Way have contained all flows with no flows from the forest entering the neighborhoods. Given the level of rainfall during what will most likely be recorded as the second wettest monsoon season on record and based on past years' experience, the County likely would have had to rebuild Brandis Way numerous times had these measures not been installed.

Mandy Metzger District 4

Lena Fowler District 5

Funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Coconino County Flood Control District, the Brandis Way EWP project broke ground in late March. This was just days after the Coconino County Flood Control District, in conjunction with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service, approved construction for this \$3.6 million project. The project was created to help mitigate flood impacts and provide additional safety for your neighborhood during and after typical monsoon storm events. Designed to accommodate up to a five year, 24-hour storm event, the project integrates sediment reduction measures on U.S. Forest Service land with a new channel to more safely convey floodwater through the neighborhood.

The Brandis/Thames project also incorporated several important improvements to public utilities in your neighborhood. Doney Park Water, Arizona Public Service, Unisource, Century Link and Suddenlink joined forces with the County to reduce the impacts from flooding, improve service and improve the area. These improvements included upgrades to the local water system and the undergrounding of overhead utilities that had been compromised and placed at risk by the flooding.

Another critical component of this project was the improvement of drainage facilities at the confluence of Brandis Way and Hwy. 89. As you know, Hwy. 89 has been impacted by flooding at this location many times over the past summers since the Schultz Fire. Brandis Way area residents, with only a single entry to over fifty developed properties, had lost access many times due to flooding at this location. This flooding also has limited the access of emergency services. As part of the Brandis Way Project, the County, working closely with ADOT, developed a drainage plan that reduced these impacts.

Most importantly, however, we would like to thank you for your patience and



cooperation throughout the four months that it took to complete construction on this project. Long-term flood mitigation has always been a community driven process. As such, it is important to acknowledge that the Brandis Way EWP project would not have been possible without the support and interest of the property owners.

It has certainly been a busy spring and summer for flood mitigation in the Schultz Flood area. In addition to the Brandis Way EWP project, three other flood mitigation projects – the Upper Campbell Ditch Stabilization, Crisp Hill Crossing and Wupatki Trails EWP projects – were completed this summer. All of these flood mitigation measures are functioning as designed to help reduce the flooding threat to lives, public infrastructure, utilities and private property, and will hopefully improve property values in the Schultz Flood area. However, it is extremely important to remember that these measures are designed to mitigate, not eliminate the threat of flooding in your neighborhoods. If the storms of July 2013 (the second wettest July on record) have taught us anything, then it is that no feasible flood mitigation measure or drainage project can mitigate flooding from larger and more severe storm events.

Because the threat of flooding will remain a fact of life in the Schultz Flood area, the County (again) strongly encourages residents to purchase or renew flood insurance if they have not already done. Information about the National Flood Insurance Program can be found at www.floodsmart.gov or by calling the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-720-1093. Furthermore, the County encourages property owners to retain the concrete barriers until further watershed recovery takes place.

The County recognizes that this construction season has been challenging for everyone. However, I have no doubt that the reduction of flood threats along the Brandis Way Flood Corridor will be of lasting benefit to you and your neighborhood. Again, we thank you for your patience, input and cooperation that helped make this flood mitigation project a reality.

If you have any questions about this project, then please call the Flood Hotline at (928) 679-8390, email staff at schultzmitigation@coconino.az.gov or visit the Schultz Flood website at www.coconino.az.gov/schultzfloodinformation.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth "Liz" Archuleta

Plante C. A - 1.

Chairwoman, Coconino County Board of Supervisors

District 2 Supervisor